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REPORTS SABOTAGE IN SOVIET ZONE GERMANY"TERRORISTS" ACTIVE -- Die Tat, No 27, 29 Jan 50

In an official report to the East German government, Erich Milke, Inspector General of the State Security Service, calls attention to a number of explosions which occurred in Gnasswitz near Bautzen and in the vicinity of Schoenbeck, Sachsen-Anhalt. The report said these explosions were caused by acts of sabotage.

The saboteurs aimed at the destruction of the nitroglycerine output.

Milke stated in his report that large numbers of "spies and terrorists" had been arrested in East Germany toward the end of 1949. In September 1949 the police uncovered a terrorist organization which was composed of former members of the Hitler Youth. A group of persons active in the Sachsen-Anhalt government were arrested for espionage in December 1949.

ANTI-COMMUNIST CARTOONIST SENTENCED -- Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 23 Feb 50

Karl Holz, a German artist and cartoonist, has been sentenced by a Soviet Military Court to 25 years of forced labor for anti-Communist activities. He had published caricatures of Soviet Zone political personalities in West German newspapers.

A Communist prior to 1933, Holz for many years published caustic satirical cartoons dealing with nationalists and National Socialists. As a result of this activity, he was excluded from the National Chamber of Arts (Reichskunstkammer) during the Third Reich. For 12 years he lived in seclusion on the outskirts of Berlin, practically starving. After the war he found employment once more as a cartoonist for the new German press.

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TAX CONTROLS TO WIPE OUT PRIVATE ENTERPRISES -- Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 23 Feb 50

At a recent session of the East German Finance Administration, Secretary Rumpf declared that "the unlawful conduct of some of the private industrialists would be countered with the socialization of their enterprises."

The tax assessment offices are to be deactivated and factory inspection bureaus set up in their place. Controls will be intensified. In the future, evasions will be punished with the full force of the law. All persons having knowledge of "de facto irregularities" will be subject to punishment. All cases in which taxes paid are found deficient by more than 500 marks will be subject to "criminal prosecution" and, if advisable, arrest pending trial.

TO KEEP POLITICAL FILE OF SOVIET ZONE RESIDENTS -- Neue Zuercher Zeitung, No 303, 13 Feb 50

A Berlin dispatch reports that Hans Warnke, a Communist Secretary of the East German Ministry of the Interior, announced on 13 February that a file will be kept for every resident of Soviet Zone Germany, outlining his entire political past.

WENDS JOIN FORCES WITH GERMAN COMMUNISTS -- Neue Zuercher Zeitung, No 337, 17 Feb 50

A Berlin despatch reports that on 16 February President Wilhelm Pieck received a delegation of Wends, headed by Paul Nedo, president of Domowina, an organization composed of Germans of "Slavic tongue and race."

Following the reception, a communique was issued to the effect that the Wendish people wished to participate in the struggle of the Soviet Zone's National Front for the unification of Germany.

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